BON

MARCHE, 314-316-318 7th Street. Cloth-Bound Books, 10 cents.

To clear cut a lot of about 200 slightly sofied looks by well-known authors. Sold as high as 31 and 31,25. While I DC. Yrakee Boodle a book with 34 pages tilnstrated — 8 full-page colored illustrations by Howard Pyle, 25c, books. DC.

Petticoats

Petticoats, lined with flannelette. Were \$1.25. Special, 70c. Black Satteen and Striped Metallic Petticoats, lined. Were 3

S1.75. Special........... 98c. : Italian Cloth and Mohair Petticoats, lined and unlined. Were \$3 and \$4. To close . \$1.98

Bon Marche, 314-316-3187th St.

~~~~~<del>~~~~~~~~~~~</del>

# For Business Or Pleasure

BICYCLES

points of superiority other bicycles. This economy to purchase sen a Rambler. A \$40

American Bicycle Co., WASHINGTON BRANCH,

CORMULLY & JEFFERY SALES DEPT ..

1325-1327 14th St. N.W. Local Agencies: 429 431 10th st. n.w. 1614 14th st. n.w.

∏inco, "Rapid Developer." ing paper made. Every photographer will be using it in a few m

M. A. Tappan & Co., 1220

# Chainless

-will surely be FIRST CHOICE of particular wheel people this year. No necumulation of dust and dirt, no clogging of sprockets—no grease. The Ladies' CHAINLESS is Ged-send, because of its extreme cleanli-ness. The COLUMBIA Chainless is a pow-

They \$60 & \$75

American Bicycle Co.,

Pope Sales Dept., 817-819 14th St. N.W. LOCAL AGENCIES. . . . ; 105 B at. s.e.

Semi-Annual Mark Down

> Now is the time to buy your Extra Pair of

Crawford Shoes

Carve/

B

WIMORE R

Big Discount 903 Penna. Avenue.



To Keep Out

Whiskey

drives out the Pure and mellow. BOKEL GWYNN McKENNEY CO., 119 South St., Enlimore, Md.



Local Prospects Do Not Appear to Be Bright.

HANLON OFFERS M'GRAW MORE MONE

Preparations at Georgetown for the Big Meet.

CURRENT SPORTING NOTES

Sensational movements in the base ball world are being made outside of Washingon. A careful canvass of the local situa ion by a Star reporter this morning compels the assertion that unless something unforeseen springs up within the next thir y-six hours Washington will be without first-class ball next season. Local followers of the game are apparetnly wide apart when capitalizing a club is considered, and for this reason a combined movement seems

A report comes from Baltimore to the effect that Managers Hanlon and McGraw were in conference until a late hour this norning, and that the latter had taken under consideration a proposition that he remain in the National League at a big advance in salary, with other financial inducements. Friends of McGraw in Washington laugh at the report, as they know
the little feflow is not in the "quitter"
class, and that he possesses sufficient common sense to see that he would be a "dead
one" in Baltimore forever should he desert
the capitalists who have put him forward
as general manager of the American Assoclation club in the oyster city. McGraw
and Robinson have valuable business interests in Baltimore, which would be
wrecked should either one make the move
expected of them by Manager Haulon,
McGraw, before affiliating with the association, considered long and well all the
phases of the situation, and he is believed
to be of that sort, when he has made up
his mind to act, all bridges have been
burned in his rear.

League Negotiations Frustrated. ucements. Friends of McGraw in Wash

It is understood that when the circuit-reducing committee of the National League met in Cleveland Wednesday agreements were reached with the magrates owning the Louisville, Cleveland, Baltimore and Wash ogton clubs and that there would be plain

League Negotiations Frustrated.

Louisville, Cieveland, Baltimore and Washington clubs and that there would be plain sailing hereafter. After the meeting adjourned come the sensational desertion of McGraw and his coup in securing the Baltimore grounds. This movement has doubtless blocked the wheels of the reduction machinery, as the league magnates cannot see their way clear to pay the Baltimore magnates from \$30,000 to \$25,000 when they have absolutely nothing to deliver but the franchise. Their players were considered worth at least \$25,000 and their grounds about \$8,000, but as these two items have been wiped off the slate by the action of McGraw it seems unbusinesslike to pay out an immense sum of money for nothing. It is just in line for the league magnates, outside of Brooklyn and Baltimore, to inform the Baltimore-Brooklyn syndicate that they do not care to purchase the outfit of the Orioles, and that they can go ahead with their arrangements as if no proposition had been made. The Baltimore people would then have to

The Baltimore people would then have to purchase new grounds and secure an entire cub of new players, as a large majority of the present team has notified McGraw that they will cast their fortunes with him. The situation thus outlined is in conformity with ideas expressed by President Soden upon his return to Boston from Cleveland and being advised of McGraw's movements in Baltimore. From the present outlook it appears as though Mr. Hanlon has dropped about \$25,000 at one fell swoop.

There is a faint possibility that Mr. Hanlon may persuade McGraw to give out the announcement that he has returned to the league so as to enable the former to unload his Baltimore holdings on his fellow magnates, but even at that it looks like a poor proposition, as McGraw is simply the agent of the American Association capitalists and all he can surrender is himself.

McGraw's New Organization.

## McGraw's New Organization.

Last night the Baltimore Base Ball and Amusement Company was formed and an American Association team will compete in that city with the National League for pub lic favor. The stockholders of the com-pany which will own the Baltimore franpany which will own the Baltimore franchise in the association met at the Eutaw House, in that city, perfected their organization and officially announced their names to the newspapers. Those present at the meeting were Messrs. John J. McGraw, ball player; Rev. John D. Boland, D. L. Straus, president of the Gosman Ginger Ale Company; John J. Mahon, broker; Phil Peterson, secretary of the Gosman Ginger Ale Company; George F. Walims, banker; J. P. Shannon, manager of the Eutaw House; Thomas E. Jenkins, press agent of the Western Maryland railroad; J. Frank Murphy, furniture dealer; W. H. McGee, pack-Western Maryland railroad; J. Frank Murphy, furniture dealer; W. H. McGee, packer; Francis E. Yewell, builder; Harry Goldman, financier; George S. Gripps, packer.
The other stockholder is Wilbert Robinson of the firm of Robinson & McGraw. His stock and that of his partner is held in the firm name. Rev. J. D. Boland is rector of St. Vincent's Catholic Church and is a lover of all healthful outdoor sports.

Dr. Charles E. Sadtler, representing the trustees of the Sadtler estate, upon which the base ball park is located, said yesterday that he wished to correct an impression that the trustees acted with any par-tiality in bestowing the lease of Union tiality in bestowing the lease of Union Park. He said Mr. Hanlon's company being an old and a good tenant of Union Park it was desired that he should have the preference, so on January 20 a messenger was sent to Mr. Hanlon with an option that was operative until noon on Janu-

Ten days before this, says Mr. Sadtler, a Ball Club notifying it that the lease had ex-Ball Club notifying it that the lease had expired and inquiring about renewal. After the lease had been made to Mr. McGraw's organization a reply came from Mr. Hanlon which was neither a rejection nor an acceptance of the terms of the option in the eyes of the trustees, who deemed it wise to get their property under a rent at once. These steps were taken because the present lessees were pressing for an answer present lessees were pressing for an answer as to whether or not they would get the

Good Thing for Base Ball. A special from St. Louis says that at Joyce and Tebeau's base ball headquarters nothing was talked about vesterday but the new American Association.

Joyce said: "I have predicted that the new American Association would be a go and that Mc-Graw and Robbie would stand true to it.

Association would be a go and that McGraw and Robbie would stand true to it. It's the best thing that ever happened for base ball. It will awaken interest in quarters where the game is dead now, create intense rivalries in cities where two clubs are located and maintain interest in the game in the fall until the snow flies."

Pat Tebeau, notwithstanding his loyalty to the league, said:

"I don't look on the new American Association as anything but a friendly rival. I can't for the life of me see where it will hurt the game. Locally it will create a great rivalry and if the rival teams meet in a spring and fall series their owners will make enough money out of those games alone to pay the whole season's expenses. As for players, why, there are players enough to start an army not quite as big as the British, but nearly as big as the Flipinos. New leagues and calamity howlers can't hurt base ball. The glorious game will be a fixture long after we have struck out."

GOLDEN EAGLES WON THREE.

Games Bowled With the Columbias Last Night. The Columbia and Golden Eagle bowling teams played three games in the District League series last night. The Eagles were victorious in all of the games, winning two without effort. In the first and second games Columbia gave a miserable exhibition, playing like novices. The last game was much the best exhibition of the evening, and the Eagles had a stiff uphill battle to make the winning. Cott entered the game for the Eagle team, but was with-

drawn after the first game, making place for Armtsrong, who was late in arriving. McNish was withdrawn by the Columbias in the sixth frame of the second game, his place being taken by Simpson, who had much difficulty in executing spare shots, though he was the victim of several splits. The games were not fast or well played, the Eagles having a present from Columbia in their first victory. The Columbias were immentably weak on spares through the entire match, and only in the last game did they perform creditable strike work. Rodrick was decidedly off, and this brilliant player, leader of the league individual record, burt his average in each of the three contests.

ord, hurt his average in each of the three contests.

The first game dragged its uninteresting length out to a tiresome extent, giving Columbia opportunity at every turn for discouragingly poor work. Easy spares were repeatedly missed. The Eagles were in the same class and played a miserable game, but making enough pins to mark a victory. The score follows:

FIRST GAME. Columbia Rowling C'ub.

St. Sp. Sc.
Ricker. 1 3 121
Desio. 1 3 119 Hanold. 4
McNish. 0 6 141 Laue. 2
Ricdrick. 2 4 152 Diemer. 2
Stitt. 2 4 139 Cott. 1 Totals... 6 20 672 Totals....11 19 The visiting team spruced up a bit in the second event and made a fairly good score, easily winning. Columbia was again easy money, and were outplayed at every point. Armstrong bowled a triple header, and Laue scored two doubles. The score follows:

SECOND GAME. | SECOND GAME. | Second Game |

Totals... 6 23 718 Totals... 14 19 798 Columbia started on well in the last game coumbia started oil well in the last game and soon secured a good lead, which they maintained until the eighth frame. Here Laue, Diemer and Armstrong started a great run which easily placed their side ahead, and in addition to a poor finish by Columbia, enough pins were bowled to land them easy winners. The score follows: THIRD GAME.

Totals... 11 21 752 Totals... 12 20 761
There will be league bowling at the Saengerbund Monday night, the Columbias playing three games there with the home club. The standing of the clubs follows:

#### ATHLETES IN TRAINING.

Preparing for Georgetown Univers-ity's Coming Contests.

Great preparations are being made to renler the coming indoor meet of Georgetown University the biggest kind of a success. It will be run off in Convention Hall on the evening of February 17. Work was begun on the track last week, and the corners will be soon in place, thus permitting which they will run in competition, a big There will be ten laps to a mile, which will make this track similar to

the one in Madison Square Garden, New

Pennsylvania will send its usually strong cam, including the many champions enrelied under its colors. A strenuous effort being made to bring Kraenzlein, the holder of three records, the low, the high nurdles, and the broad jump, together with Hutchinson of Princeton, in the hurdles, I. K.Baxter, the champion intercollegiate high jumper, has returned to Pennsylvania, and may be seen in competition with Carroll of Priaceton in the high jump.

#### The Relay Race.

The star attraction of the evening, how-ever, will be the relay race between Pennylvania and Georgetown. In this event will be seen some of America's fastest quarer-milers. Georgetown encounters Harvard tenight at the Indoor meet of Boston Colege, and the outcome will be watched with interest, especially since Pennsylvania will meet Harvard the following Saturday night. From the showing made the followers of each team may be enabled to estimate the

each team may be enabled to estimate the chances.

Not all the relay running will be done by Georgetown and Pennsylvania, however, for the Washington branch of the Y. M. C. A. will put a team in the field against the Baltimore branch of the same organization, and a great fight is predicted. A number of the members of the local branch are training under the supervision of Messrs. Ridout and Holtan. Villanova is also very anxious to meet its old rival from Lewisburg, Pa., Bucknell, and its wish may be gratified.

The man who will furnish the most surprise and astonishment to the crowd will be Arthur F. Duffy, the champlon sprin-

prise and astonishment to the crowd will be Arthur F. Duffy, the champion sprin-ter at 100 yards. He is a small chap, and it seems well nigh incredible that he should run as fast as he does. He is as quick as the pistol flash. His title as champion at the 100 yard distance was won in the A. A. U. games in Boston on August 28, when he ran away from Kraenziein, the chamhe ran away from Kraenzlein, the cham-pion hurdler, and Stephens of Canada in he time of ten seconds

#### Training at Georgetown. The following are among the men now is

training: Lynch, Barry, Lenane, Hirst Coad, Rice, Lennon, Holland, Kerns, Sheridan, Dessez, Fey, Wilson, Brown, McKay Horsey, Douglass, Keane, Cranston, Finn Long, Cummings, J. Lynch, J. Gracie Walsh, Brady, Mulligan, Cashman, Downs. There will be a relay race between the local high school, and many of the representatives from the different schools are now utilizing the indoor track at Georgetown. The events of the meet will comprise two forty-yard runs, one handicap, one scratch; 220-yard handicap, 880-yard intercollegiate, one-mile run, fifty-yard hurdle, pole vault, shot put, together with the school-boy races. Walsh, Brady, Mulligan, Cashman, Downs

he school-boy races.
The indoor track in the Healy building s daily the scene of activity. From the nours of 11 o'clock to 12, and from 3 to 5 hours of 11 o'clock to 12, and from 3 to 5 in the afternoon, many of the students may be seen limbering up, taking starts, and sprinting for twenty or thirty yards. Owing to the great number of men in training it has been found expedient to divide them into squads.

All the men in training and trying for positions on the fearm are under the sur-

positions on the team are under the sur-veillance and ever watchful eye of Trainer William Foley, than whom there is no one more painstaking or earnest. He shows the more painstaking or earnest. He shows the recruits how to stride, and keeps down the too-willing spirit of the veterans, to run the too-willing spirit of the veterans to run the too-willing spirit of the veterans to run the run blaced on the run the too-willing spirit of the veterans, to run away from each other when placed on the mark. Besides Trainer Foley, Capt. Mulli-gan of the track team is always alert for any mistakes made by the men, and is ever willing to lend any aid, material or other-

# TO FORM A CHESS CLUB.

Cournament Tonight at the Y. M. C. A.

The Young Men's Christian Association has arranged a chess tournament for this evening as a first step in the organization of a chess club among the members of the association. All persons interested in chess are invited to be present this evening whether members of the association or not Mr. E. P. Hanna will play all comers playing simultaneously a dozen or more games. A handsome prize will be awarded games. A handsome prize will be awarded the first member to checkmate Mr. Hanna. Play will begin promptly at 8 o'clock, and continue until 11.

Mr. Hanna has held the championship of the District of Columbia for several years, and was champion of his native state, Kansas, when only nineteen years of age.

Stole Pigeons. Walter Butler was today convicted before Judge Kimball of stealing thirteen pigeons valued at \$1 each, from A. A. Hancock, and was fined \$20, with the alternative of spending four months in iail.

The Best Prescription for Chills The Best Prescription for Chills and Ferer is a bottle of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. The formula is plainly printed on each package. It is simply iron and Quinne in a tasteless form and is compounded in correct proportions. The reason imitators do not advertise their formula is because they know you would not buy their medicine if you knew its ingredients, Grove's is the original, and is the only chill and fever remedy sold throughout the entire malarial section of the United States. No cure, no pay. Price, 50c.

# A RETIREMENT FUND

Prominent Feature of the Proposed Weather Bureau Beorganization.

DEDUCTIONS FROM THE SALARIES

Provisions for Appointment, Promotion and Dismissal.

A BILL OF WIDE SCOPE

be of considerable importance to employes of the executive departments at Washington is now pending before the House. This is the bill (H. R. 3988) to reorganize the weather bureau, which the House committee on agriculture authorized, last Wednesday, to be favorably reported, as stated in The Star at the time.

Chairman Wadsworth has been working on the bill since then, by direction of the committee, perfecting its verbiage. He has completed this task and the bill is now on the House calendar, ready to be called up for consideration in order.

While the provisions of this bill apply

only to the weather bureau, the measure is considered important from the fact that it will test the sense of Congress upon the question of providing a retirement fund in question of providing a retirement fund in a bureau of an executive department of the government. Such a proposition has been before a House committee neretofore but never coupled with the official indorse-ment which this bill carries. The sections of the bill creating the re-tirement fund, as amended by direction of the committee, provide as follows:

#### A Retirement Fund. "Sec. 8. That beginning on the 1st day of

July, 1900, there shall be withheld each month from the salaries of the employes of the weather bureau, drawing salaries of \$360 per annum and upward (except that retired officers and enlisted men of the army and navy shall not be assessed or re-ceive retirement pay under the provisions of this act), 3 per centum or so much there-of as the retirement board hereinafter deof this act), 3 per centum or so much thereof as the retirement board hereinafter described may determine to be necessary for
the purpose herein specified; said sum swithheld to be deposited in the treasury of
the United States to the credit of the
'weather bureau retirement fund,' as a
special deposit, which, with the approval
of the chairman of the retirement board,
shall be subject to requisition by the disbursing officer of the weather bureau, and
for which the official bond of the latter
shall be liable, to be expended by him for
the benefit of the employes who shall be
retired upon the plan and under the provisions of this act.

"Provided, That on all moneys so withheld from the salaries of such employes the
government shal pay no interest; that on
and after the 1st day of July, 1800, employes in the weather bureau serive who are
subject to the provisions of this act shall be
retired from such service and paid an annuity equal to a per centum hereinafter
named: Provided, That such retirement
shall be made under and subject to the
following conditions:

"Par. 1. Employes how or hereafter in
the weather bureau who have been employed in the said bureau for a period of
ten years or more, including service in the
Signal Corps. United States army, prior to
July 1, 1891, and who are disabled for the
performance of their duties, as determined
by the retirement board hereinafter named,
may be retired, and, when so retired, shall
be paid an annuity equal to 30 per centum

by the retirement board hereinafter named, may be retired, and, when so retired, shall be paid an annuity equal to 30 per centum of the average annual pay that they may have received during the last five years previous to their retirement.

"Par. 2. Employes who have been employed as above named for a period of twenty years, and those who have been employed thirty years and who are disabled for the performance of their duties, may be retired, and, when so retired, shall be paid an annuity equal to 40 per centum and 50 per centum, respectively, of the average annual pay they may have received during the last five years previous to their retirement.

retirement.
"Par. 3. Employes who have reached the age of sixty years and have been employed thirty years may be retired, and when retired shall be paid 60 per centum of the average annual pay they may have received during the last five years previous to their retirement. retirement.
"Par. 4. Employes who have reached the

"Par. 4. Employes who have reached the age of sixty-five years and who have been employed thirty years shall be compulsorily retired, and shall be paid 75 per cent of the average annual pay they may have received during the last five years previous to their retirement; and any person who shall attain the age of sixty-five years without having completed thirty years' service shall be retired and receive annually

without having completed thirty years' service shall be retired and receive annually one-thirtieth of the 75 per cent of salary for each year of his service:

"Provided, That in all cases where employes shall voluntarily leave the government service or be removed therefrom for cause they shall forfeit to the retirement fund the amount of salary withheld under the provisions of this act; but if those who voluntarily have retired thereafter re-enter said service they shall be entitled to the benefit of the time they may have service;

"And be it further provided, That all retired employes and officials shall be subject to the orders of the chief of the weather bureau for emergency or temporary assignments to duty for periods not to exceed sixty days in any one calendar year without additional compensation.

"Par. 5. That any employe who has contributed as herein provided to the weather bureau retirerent fund hereby authorized who shall die before retirement shall have

who shall die before retirement shall have paid to the person previously designated by him, but no other person. **75 per ce**nt of the amount of salary withheld during his term of office and deposited in said fund."

#### The Retirement Board.

The bill creates a retirement board, to onsist of the chief of the weather bureau and two employes of the bureau, to be selected by the Secretary of Agriculture, and all retirements, both compulsory and and all retirements, both compulsory and voluntary, shall be made upon the recommendation of said board and with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture: Provided, That in no case shall a retirement be made unless the current revenues of the retirement fund be sufficient to bear the additional expense. It is also provided "That for the first ten years after this act goes into effect there shall be withheld from the annuity paid to retired employes of the weather bureau monthly a sum equal to the amount withheld for the month immediately preceding retirement; and such to the amount withheld for the month im-mediately preceding retirement; and such sum shall be retained in the weather bu-reau retirement fund and paid out as other moneys in said fund are authorized to be expended: Provided, That the length of service of all persons who may enter the weather bureau on or after the date on which this act goes into effect shall, for the purpose of retirement, be computed from the date of their first assessment for the weather bureau retirement fund."

Filling Vacancies. The bill also makes some changes in the method of selecting employes for the ser-vice. The civil service commission shall conduct all examinations for original ap-

pointment and the chief of the weather bu-reau shall originate and conduct examinareau shall originate and conduct examinations for promotions.

Vacarcies in the lowest grades of observer, clerk and stenographer shall be filled by reductions, promotions as provided in section 6. transfers from co-ordinate grades or by appointments apportifined among the states and territories in alphabetical order and the congressional districts in numerical order, the senators of a state being first recognized in the order of their seniority; and vacancies in the position of messenger, watchman, artisan or in any mechanical position shall be filled and opportioned in the same manner as for observers, clerks and stenographers, except that the alphabetical order of the states shall be reversed: Provided that all positions above those for which original appointment is herein provided shall be filled by promotion from lower grades or positions, or by reduction from higher grades or positions.

The age limits for appointees shall be as

or positions.

The age limits for appointees shall be as follows:

cases of persons who served in the United States army, navy, or marine corps, between April 12, 1861, and August 23, 1865, and received an honorable discharge therefrom, the age limits for appointment to the positions of messenger, watchman and clerk at the central office in Washington. District of Columbia, are hereby waived.

After five years' satisfactory service messengers and stenographers may be promoted to the grade of observer if they pass an examination including English language, arithmetic, algebra and elementary meteorology, with an average marking of not less than 75 per centum and not less than 65 per centum in each subject; and in like manner, and after a like length of service, any laborer, mechanic or other employe may be advanced.

Nomination of Applicant.

#### Nomination of Applicant. When a senator or representative or dele-gate is notified by the Secretary of Agri-

culture that an appointment is to be made from his state, his district or his territory he shall, within thirty days, nominate or or more persons of sound physique and good morals, who shall conform to the conditions prescribed in section 5. He, she or they shall report to the civil service commission for such physical and mental examinations as may be prescribed by the commission after consultation and agreement with the chief of the weather bureau. Failure to pass the physical examination chall exclude the candidate from participation in the mental examination. In order to pass, a candidate must attain an average of 75 per centum in the mental examination and not less than 65 per centum in each subject. If more than one candidate be nominated, the appointment shall be given to the candidate passing with the highest general average; if no one of the candidates pass, the senator, representative or delegate shall be so notified and equested to again nominate one or more candidates; if none of these pass, the appointment shall go to the next senator, representative or delegate in proper order. A candidate shall not be examined a second time. or more persons of sound physique and

#### Probationary Appointments.

The successful candidates shall receive probationary appointments for one year during which, time they may be removed if, in accord with the recommendation of the chief of the weather bureau, the Secretary of Agriculture is of the opinion that tary of Agriculture is of the opinion that they are not suited to the work of the weather bureau; but in case of the removal of a probationary appointed the same sen-ator, representative or delegate (or his suc-cessor) who nominated the person removed shall be called on to make nomination for the vacancy thus created.

#### Reductions and Dismissals.

The bill provides regulations for reductions and dismissals, upon charges; for promotion "based entirely on merit;" for temporary appointments for thirty days, and says: "That where the transaction of official business will permit, without detriofficial business will permit, without detriment to the public service, the chief of the weather bureau may grant to employes not to exceed thirty days' leave of absence with pay, and thirty days' additional may be granted in case of sickness; but nothing in this act shall give any employe a right to any portion of such leave if, in the judgment of the chief of the weather bureau, it be advisable to withhold the same."

#### Grades of salaries are established, rang-ing from the first grade, of \$360 to \$720, to the ninth grade, of \$2,500 to \$6,000. The Bureau Officials.

The weather bureau shall hereafter con sist of a chief, who has been or who shall be selected from the officials of the bureau of or above the seventh grade, and who shall hold office during efficiency and good behavior, and receive an annual salary of \$5,000, and have been or be appointed by the President by and with the advice and corsent of the Senate; an assistant chief, who shall be appointed by the Secretary of who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture from the officials of the bureau of or above the sixth grade, and who shall receive \$3,500 per runum; a chief clerk, who shall be appointed from the officials of the bureau of or above the fifth grade, and receive \$2,250 per annum; a disbursing officer, who shall be appointed from the officials of the bureau of or above the fifth grade, and receive \$2,000 per annum; a private secretary to the chief of bureau, who shall be appointed without regard to apportionment or examination, and receive \$1,600 per annum.

The proposed law is to go into effect

The proposed law is to go into effect July 1, next.

#### Aims of the Bill. Chairman Wadsworth's report on the

"The bill aims to accomplish three objects which are departures from existing law. The other provisions of the bill are matters of detail necessary to carry out the three primary objects of the proposed law. These

First. The perpetuation by law of the present rigid system of discipline and merit maintained in the weather bureau, with a further provision requiring that each appointee of the weather bureau entier its lower grades and be subjected to such study and discipline as will most effectively qualify him to become a useful public official and permit him only to advance so far as his merits demand and the needs of the public service require. This system of merit to extend from the humblest employe to the chief of the bureau. All of the valuable features of the existing law have been retained, while much has been added that will insure a greater efficiency in the bureau. "First. The perpetuation by law of the features of the existing law have been retained, while much has been added that will insure a greater efficiency in the bureau.

"Second. The granting of authority to the employes of the bureau to create, exclusively from their own moneys, a fund for the retirement of disabled and aged officials, this to be accomplished without one dollar of expense to the federal government, and in such a way that at no time in the future can the federal government be called on to contribute in any manner to the fund.

"Third. The apportionment, under specific limitations as to age and mental and physical qualifications, of all appointments impartially among senators, representatives and delegates in much the same manner as cadets are nominatted for appointment to West Point and Annapolis.

# cadets are nominatted for appointment to West Point and Annapolis.

An Ideal Merit System. "It is believed that the proposed bill will inaugurate in the weather bureau an ideal merit system. The aim is to make ability and industry the basis of promotion, and to prohibit the advancement of employes by means of political or other influence, which has proved so demoralizing to the public service.

which has proved so demoralizing to the public service.

"To briefly summarize the salient features of the proposed law it may be said that it apportions appointments among senators, representatives and delegates, without regard to their political faith, and it provides that candidates shall be nominated under such conditions as will render it difficult, if not impossible, to effect the permanent appointment or the promotion of an unfit person. It prohibits the use of political or other influences to secure promotion or assignment. We believe that this measure properly co-ordinates the prerogatives of Congress and the executive officers of the government in the matter of the appointment to and the control of the weather service. It places each employe strictly upon his merits and compels him to work out his own salvation, while the present law leaves this to the will of the executive officer or the rules of a commission. It prohibits the removal of any employe for political reasons, and makes his tenure of office secure so long as his services are advantageous to the government and no longer. Without one cent of expense to the government it provides for the separation from the public pay rols of disabled, aged or only partly efficient employes, and at the same time it provides support in their hours of need.

"The bill is strictly in line with the most advanced ideas on civil service as espoused by many executive officers who have had who are earnest in their desire to maintain either the existing laws on he civil service or an improvement upon them.

Strongly Indorsed.

"The bill is strongly indorsed by the de-

#### Strongly Indorsed. "The bill is strongly indorsed by the de

partment commander of the G. A. R. of the District of Columbia, by the last past de-partment commander of the same District, by the commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., by all the large maritime associations of by all the large maritime associations of the United States, by the principal boards of trade, cotton exchanges, produce and commercial exchanges, vessel masters' as-sociations and by the press in every state in the Union, as evidenced by several hun-dred editorial expressions which this com-mittee has received. Among these edito-rials there are less than a dozen dissenting on holos.

The age limits for appointees shall be as follows:
For observers, clerks and stenographers, not less than eighteen years nor more than thirty years; for artisans, watchmen and nucchanics, not less than twenty years nor more than thirty "ve years; for messengers, not less than twenty rears nor more than there are less than a dozen dissenting opinions.

"While allowing nominations to be made by the representatives of the people, the bill provides such a high standard for admittance to the service, and such a rigid system of merit after the candidate is once appointed, as to command the support of than twenty-five years; provided, that in the

Goes Merrily On!



Our clearance sale of winter woolens is fast approaching the final day. Each day's orders makes the quantities grow less. Worth your while to avail yourself of the reduced prices.

> Mertz and Mertz, Tailors. 906 and 908 F Street.

in an honest, economical and efficient administration of pub ic office.

"In the final pages of this communication are shown, specifically, commercial and other associations which have strongly petitioned your committee for favorable action. These resolutions are not mere perfunctory expressions. They are passed by organizations having close affinity with the weather bureau, and deriving such substantial benefit therefrom as to cause them to have an active and vital interest in the welfare and better organization of this important branch of the public service.

"Reasons for urging special legislation in favor of retirement for weather bureau employes:

"They are passed by the wide verandas, where "Meh Lady" stood in the moonight and fought the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the gallant northern lover distractingly and the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a yearning for the memory of her dead and a year

in favor of retirement for weather bureau employes:

"1. They work 365 days in a year. Their hours of duty are long. On the Pacific coast the first observation is made between 4:30 and 5:30 a.m., while on the Atlantic coast the offices can not be closed before 11 p.m., and often later. They must be on the alert at all times to detect the first premonitions of storm development and remain constantly on duty in order to distribute warnings that may be received at any moment.

"2. They are subject to great vicissitudes

"2. They are subject to great vicissitudes of climate, being required to serve, as the exigencies of the service may require, in almost any degree of latitude, from Alaska to the West Indies.

"3. By reason of the peculiar organization of the service its employes are, like officers of the army, in a great measure deterred from obtaining a fixed habitation or enjoying the privileges that accrue to long residence in a community. Changes of station generally operate to their financial disadvantage.

cial disadvantage.

"4. It requires many years of experience in the weather bureau to become thoroughly efficient in the higher duties of the serv-

wholly by themselves, and not costing the government one penny, but, on the contrary, saving much to the government by taking from the rolls all who for any reason are partly or wholly incapacitated."

Accompanying the report is a list of thirty-six boards of trade and other organizations favoring the reorganization of the weather bureau along the lines proposed.

## CHARGES DISMISSED.

# Majority of Commissioners Decide Officer O'Den's Case.

After considering the matter for several weeks, the District Commissioners today Commissioner Ross dissenting, dismissed the charge of intoxication preferred against

Policeman L. J. O'Dea last month. Officer O'Dea pleaded guilty of becoming intoxicated while on duty and leaving his peat the 14th of last month before the proper time. In forwarding the papers in the case to the Commissioners, Maj. Sylvester, the chief of police, explained that four years ago Officer O'Dea was warned by them, and up to his trouble last month ore a clear record, being commended by Lieuts. Daley, McCathran, Pearson and others. But, in view of the action of the Commissioners four years ago, Maj. Sylves-ter stated that he must recommend his dis-

Commissioner Wight, who has immediat Commissioner Wight, who has immediate supervision of the police department, personally investigated the case, stating to his associates that while the officer had been found guilty of drinking, the facts in the case did not appear to him to establish anything more than that he unwisely, perhaps, took the liquor for medicinal pur-poses. The testimony of the lieutenants as o the man's efficiency, and the clear record to the man's efficiency, and the clear record he had maintained up to last month, enti-tled him, in Mr. Wight's opinion, to con-sideration. Mr. Wight found that the of-ficer took the liquor last month at his wife's suggestion for medicinal purposes, but rather than involve her in the case the man refrained from so explaining. In view of these facts, Mr. Wight recommended that the charge of intoxication be dismissed, and that the officer be notified that here. and that the officer be notified that here-after when he is sick and unable to per-form duty he shall report the fact in the regular way and use such medicine as may be prescribed for him by the police sur-geon.

Commissioner Ross, however, could not approve Mr. Wight's recommendation. He stated that while he has the utmost sympathy for men who have the drink habit, and is willing to give them chance after chance to do better, provided the employment which is accorded them does not involve description. chance to do better, provided the employment which is accorded them does not involve danger to the community, he deems it wholly inexpedient and absolutely dangerous to give such continued employment to men who persist in drinking when intrusted with the baton and revolver. Therefore, while willing to vote to employ the officer in any other capacity than that of policeman, Mr. Ross said that under the circumstances he must vote to approve the chief of police's recommendation of dismissal. At the request of many of the friends of the officer Mr. Ross again went over both cases, but stated that he could not see his way clear to modify his above statement of his views in the present case. The papers then went back to Commissioner Wight, who indorsed them to the effect that he felt justified in adhering to his recommendation of a dismissal of the charge of intoxication. Capt. Beach, the his recommendation of a dismissal of charge of intoxication. Capt. Beach, Engineer Commissioner, agreed with hin the matter, and the action recommended Mr. Wight was thereupon taken today.

THE ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE.

uccessful Readings by Hopkinson Smith and Mr. Nelson Page.

Vesterday afternoon at the Columb'a Theater, F. Hopkinson Smith and Thomas Nelson Page entertained a large and ou etly appreciative audience of the capital's artistic and intellectual citizens with readings from their own works. The stage was set as a very plain temple interior. A draped table and an easel, loaded with blossoms of pink and white, were the only proper ties. Then, without the aid of stage hands the scenes were shifted with in

Mr. Smith's first reading, after a brief introduction by Mr. Page, was entitled "Jonathan," a picture from nature as vivid and full of truth and color as any of the masterful things that the artist-author ever put to canvas or paper. It was as quiet as the wooded depths wherein Jonathan dweit, and as soft as the midday sighing of his companion trees.

Mr. Page's reading from "Meh Lady" differed in subject from Jonathan, as the plue from the rose, but had the same art to bind, and the same pathos and that human love which knows no race of locality.

Mr. Smith's "Captain Joe" and Mr. Page's "How Jennie Eaved Her Mind" composed the second half of the program, and completed an entertainment of singular beauty, complete and satisfying.

complete and satisfying.

The readings were for the benefit of the Art Students' League pecuniarily, and for the assembled audience intellectually, as well as artistically, undoubtedly.

#### That Kansas Lynching. To the Editor of The Evening Star:

As a citizen of Kansas I cannot let your ditorial on the recent Kansas lynching go unchallenged, as it shows a misconception of the condition of affairs in that state. When you characterized this lynching in the weather bureau to become thoroughly efficient in the higher duties of the service, and constant study is necessary in order to keep pace with the developments of metoorological science. The most efficient men are those who entered the service when they were young and vigorous, and gained proficiency as a result of study of the weather conditions as they were daily presented. The observers of the weather bureau are on guard to give warming when danger threatens, so that measures of safety may be taken by those whose lives and property are in jeopardy.

"5. Effective discipline must be enforced to insure the prompt execution of every order without regard to personal comfort, health, or safety, and it is not just that those who have devoted the best years of their life to this practical science should be turned away helpless in their old age. Congress should not refuse to authorize them to organize a plan of retirement supported wholly by themselves, and not costing the government one penny, but, on the contrary, saving much to the government by taking from the rolls all who for any reason are partly or wholly incapacitated."

When you characterized this lynching as "one of the worst phases of this atractious practice," because the men killed by the mob had been tried and convicted of turned and thereby condemned to death, you were probably not aware that being condemned to death, you were probably not aware that being condemned to death in Kansas statutes trying the case sentences the convicted murderers in dee form to be hung, but the law gives the govern ralone power to fix the date for the hanging. Years ago Kansas had a governor who, being opposed to capital punishment, declined to fix the date for executions, and since that time no governor has been found willing to execute office, and as it would be manifestly unjust to hang the rurerers convicted before he came into office, and as it would be manifestly unjust to hang the rurerers convicted before he came into office, and as it would be manifestly u as "one of the worst phases of this atracious practice," because the men killed

abolished in Kansas without the consent of the people.

There is no other state in the Union where law and order are more strictly ob-served than in Kansas, and this lynching was nothing more nor less than a foreble protest against the non-enforcement of the law. These men had been tried and con-victed and sentenced to death, as you say, and there could be no doubt that they law. These men had been tried and convicted and sentenced to death, as you say, and there could be no doubt that they deserved death, and the mob adopted the only method in which the sentence of the court could be carried out, and it strikes me that instead of being one of the "worst phases" it is very much to the credit of the Kansas mob that they waited until the murderers had been fairly and legally tried and condemned to death, and there could be no question of their guilt, before they proceeded to hang them, instead of following the practice of the cultured east of hangling men without trial and on suspicion only.

only..

The slow-going people in the middle Atthat there has been a great advance in civilization in the wild and woolly west during the past forty years, even if there has not been a corresponding advance in their way section.

BENJ. R. F. GRAVES MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Injunction Continued by Judge Bar-nard to February B. Many of the stockholders of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company visited the city hall this morning in expectation that the legal settlement of the differences existing between the opposing factions in the corporation would be commenced. They were disappointed, however, as yesterday after-noon Messrs. Samuel Macdox and R. Ross Perry, counsel for Richard H. Johnson and others, who are suing Samuel H. Walker, appeared before Justice Barnard and filed an amended bill of complaint. Justice Barnard and face and thereupon continued the existing injunction until February 9, when the case

will be argued William Eslin was today charged before Judge Kimball with threatening to do bod-ily harm to his wife, and the court required him to give a \$300 real estate bond or go to

He Who Buys or Sells

jail for sixty days.



R. H. NEUMEYER, Agent.

and

Mellow